

**The Connecticut EMS Advisory Board
Emergency Preparedness Committee
MEETING MINUTES
October 09, 2014
Danbury Hospital**

Present: William Ackley – Committee Chair, Michele Connelly – DPH/OEMS,
Judi Reynolds – DPH/OEMS, John Reed – Danbury, Joe Laucella - Trumbull

1.0 Call to order

Chair Bill Ackley called the meeting to order at 10:06AM at Danbury Hospital.

2.0 Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Michele Connelly, seconded by John Reed and approved unanimously.

3.0 Initiatives for discussion

- **Emergency Vehicle Response in Hazardous Conditions**

- **Update from Chief Allyn regarding integration into the fire service document**
Bill has not had any feedback from Chief Allyn. There was discussion on the value of the document as a guidance resource. It was noted services need to work within their communities when planning. The differences throughout the state standing up an EOC, staffing and the use of the command structure were discussed.

- **EMS Preparedness**

- **MCI Trailers**
Jon Best and his staff are conducting an inventory of the trailers. Jon Best has a supply of higher quality body bags that may be distributed to the trailers. ALS supplies will be taken off the trailers. There was discussion on what is currently on the trailers. Some trailers have been customized by their hosts. There was a discussion on standardization of the trailers and the need for training on their use. The need for having a person trained in driving vehicles with trailers for the transport of the trailers was discussed. Vehicle requests must be made through Jon Best, they should be requested well in advance. Trailer locations were discussed.
- **Mobile Field Hospital**
There was discussion on the mobile field hospital components, past use and the process of putting the components up properly. Bill Ackley noted one of the things brought to the table by CT in working with the New York/New Jersey Task Force is the Mobile Field Hospital, in return their resources are available to Connecticut. Connecticut does not have multiple patient transport capabilities or staging trailers, the Task Force can assist us with those needs.

There was discussion on the Corrections officers assisting with the Mobile Field Hospital set up in the past and how helpful they were.

- **Reporting standard, policy and practice**

- **Mass Gatherings**

No action reported, would like to break up the tasks over the winter for the group to move forward on. The importance of standardizing forms and protocols was discussed.

4. Other Business

- **Other**

Bill Ackley noted Jon Best has been in Washington discussing Ebola preparedness, there was discussion on the Governors declaration regarding quarantine which allows the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health to issue quarantine orders for monitoring of persons that may have been exposed to the Ebola virus. The importance of planning and training in the proper use of PPE was discussed. It is expected there may be a shortage of PPE as things progress. EMD inclusion of the key questions was discussed. John Reed will forward their EMD protocol and algorithm. Other members will also share their materials as available.

The logistics of managing small airports, train stations and charter carriers and the difficulties in monitoring the traffic through them was noted.

There was discussion concerning crew awareness and training to minimize any possibility of exposure for providers, including first responders, police and ambulance crews. The cold and flu season will only complicate our responses. Preparation of vehicles and decontamination were discussed.

- **NJ EMS TF Special Ops Day – September 20, 2014 – Edison NJ**

Bill reviewed the deployment exercise, he will send out notices for future meetings and exercises, they meet quarterly. The group includes the entire state of New Jersey, Westchester County, Suffolk County, Nassau County and Connecticut. One of the emphases for the day was the multi patient transport units and the group was involved in the Super Bowl preplanning Resources. Bill outlined the advantages of working with the group and the resources they are willing to share with Connecticut. Some of their training opportunities have been opened up to the Connecticut group.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:07. The Committee members were then given a tour of the new Danbury Emergency Department by John Reed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Judi Reynolds

OEMS Region 2 Coordinator